

ROTOVUE

Serving Marine Corps Air Station New River and Jacksonville, N.C.

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Sept. 11, 2002

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News

Patriot Day: September 11

A joint resolution approved by Congress in December 2001 authorized and requested President George W. Bush to proclaim Sept. 11 of each year as "Patriot Day."

An excerpt from the signed proclamation reads as follows:

"... Inspired by the heroic sacrifices of our firefighters, rescue and law enforcement personnel, military service members, and other citizens, our Nation found unity, focus, and strength. We found healing in the national outpouring of compassion for those lost, as tens of millions of Americans participated in moments of silence, candlelight vigils, and religious services. From the tragedy of Sept. 11 emerged a stronger Nation, renewed by a spirit of national pride and a true love of country..."

The full proclamation text can be found at www.defenselink.mil.

Commandant Nomination

Lt. Gen. Michael W. Hagee, commanding general, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif., was recently selected as Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's nomination for commandant of the Marine Corps.

If selected by President George W. Bush and the Senate, Lt. Gen. Hagee will receive a promotion and would replace Gen. James L. Jones some time early next year.

Lt. Gen. Hagee, 57, is a Vietnam veteran and seasoned Marine Corps commander. He has served in various operations to include Somalia.

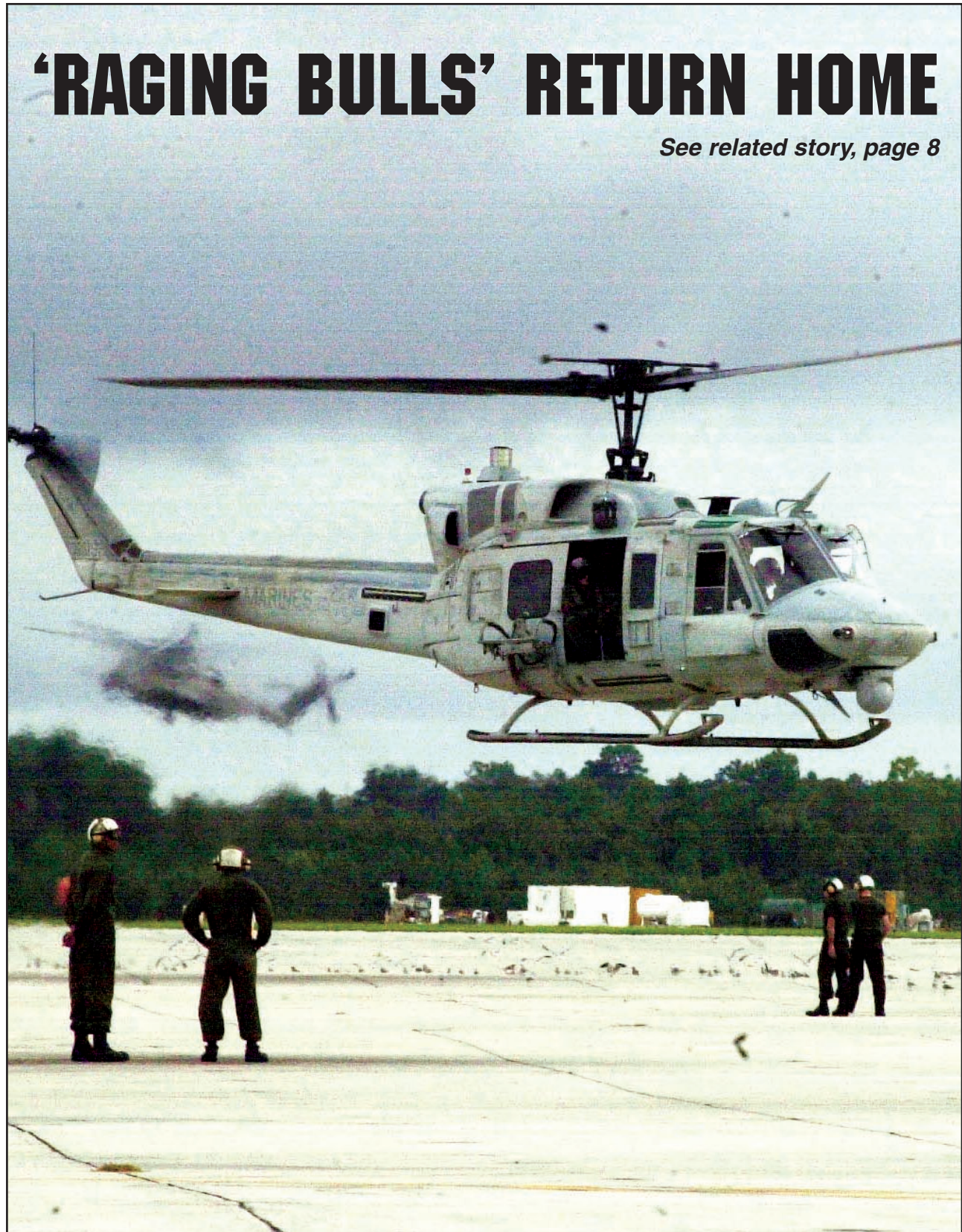
Other candidates for the position include Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Lt. Gen. Emil R. Bedard, deputy commandant for plans, policies and operations.

Inside Look

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'RAGING BULLS' RETURN HOME

See related story, page 8



OWC Golf Scramble

The Officers' Wives' Club is hosting a golf scramble to be held Sept. 26 at the Gold Course, Paradise Point, Camp Lejeune. The Fee is set at \$150 per four-person team. There is a 36-team limit, and there will be no registration the day of the game. Check-in begins at 7:45 a.m. and the tournament is scheduled to start at 8:30 a.m. There will be a \$1,000 hole-in-one prize and a \$250 closest-to-the-pin prize. All proceeds benefit local charities. For more information, call Carey Schott at 324-1922 or Karen Denning at 324-7884.

Memorial Flag Project

After Sept. 11, 2001, a memorial flag project was started to remember all Americans who have died in terrorist's acts at home and abroad in the past 30 years. The project is a 62.5-by 35-foot American flag made of 5,000 6- by 8-inch cross-stitched squares. The flag is scheduled for display in Washington, D.C., New York City, Pennsylvania, and at the Beirut Memorial this fall or winter.

Each of the red and white squares is made from a pattern identifying the date or tragedy site, with a victim's name stitched underneath it. Each of the 50 stars on the blue field has each state's initials and a peace rose stitched into it. The last stripe will be left blank to symbolize that the fight isn't over, and our heros are still defending our freedom.

For more information contact memflag@ajbservices.com or visit www.mwmorialflag.org. To help facilitate the travel costs, mail donations to:

'Memorial Flag Project'
PO Box 31
Scotland, Pa. 17254

Post Office Changes Hours

Effective Sept. 9, the post office aboard New River has changed its hours of operation. The new hours of operation are from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. and from 2 - 4 p.m. For more information, call the post office at 449-6397.

Beirut Memorial 10K Run/Walk

The Beirut Memorial 10K Run/Walk is scheduled to begin at Camp Johnson's Gymnasium, Oct. 19 at 8 a.m.

In addition to individual competition five-man teams must complete individual entry forms. Team categories are male, female, mixed, club, cooperate, and school.

Pre-registration will be held through Oct. 16. Registration fee for active duty, retired, family members and reservists is \$15, and \$18 for civilians. Late registration will be held from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. on race day and will be \$20.

Individual participants and teams may register online at www.active.com or in person at the Goettge Memorial Field House, room 103, or mail registration forms to:

Marine Corps Community Services
Attn FIT/RACE
1401 West Road
Camp Lejeune, N.C. 28547-2539

For more information, call Mike Marion at 451-1799, or e-mail at marionmj@lejeune.usmc.mil.

New Shelter Hours

Effective immediately, the Onslow County Animal Shelter, located at 242 Georgetown Road, has changed its hours of operation. The shelter will be open Monday - Thursday from 12 - 7 p.m., Friday from 12 - 3 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. The shelter will be closed Sundays and holidays. For more information, call 455-0182.

Fall Home Business Expo

The New River Officers' Wives' Club and the Small Business Center at Coastal Carolina Community College are sponsoring a Fall Home Business Expo, Oct. 5, at Jacksonville High School. The event is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and admission is free. Come see for yourself all the latest products from your favorite businesses and check out the newest businesses in the area. Door prizes will be raffled off every 15 minutes. Raffle tickets are \$1 each.

Marine Corps Half-Marathon

The Marine Corps Half-Marathon is scheduled to begin at Russell Elementary School on Camp Lejeune Sept. 28, starting at 8 a.m., and is open to the public. The registration fee for active duty, retired, family members and reservists is \$20 and \$25 for civilians before 1 p.m., Sept. 25. Late registration will be \$30 and held from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m., at the race site.

Five-man teams will be broken down into categories of male, female, mixed, club, corporate and school. Each team member must fill out an individual registration form, and all team entries must be received in one envelope.

Individual participants and teams may register online at www.active.com or in person at the Goettge Memorial Field House, room 103, or mail registration forms to:

Marine Corps Community Services
Attn FIT/RACE
1401 West Road
Camp Lejeune, N.C. 28547-2539

For more information, call Mike Marion at 451-1799, or e-mail at marionmj@lejeune.usmc.mil.

Fall Frenzy Softball Tournament

The Fall Frenzy Softball Tournament is scheduled for Sept. 27-29. The tournament is open to all active duty, dependants and retirees. The cost is \$100 per team and registration deadline is Sept. 24. Teams must provide their own 47 core softballs. Team trophies will be given to first, second and third place teams and individual trophies will be awarded to first and second place winners.

For more information, call 449-5609/ 0306.

Front page:

photo by Cpl. Andrew W. Miller

The "Raging Bulls" returned home after a six-month deployment.



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If you have any comments or suggestions you may also contact the public affairs office at (910) 449-6196 or fax (910) 449-6478.

Marines driven to help fellow warriors

Lance Cpl. Misty D. Salinas
correspondent

The bond which exists between the Marine Corps band of brothers and sisters is strengthened by the willing devotion to take care of one another.

This devotion holds high importance with Marines and their families, especially during the holiday times when many could use a helping hand and an open heart.

Every year 'holiday cheer baskets,' baskets containing non-perishable food and turkeys, are given out to the Marines and Sailors whose families are in need of assistance.

In 2000, a committee for the Single Marine Program started a canned food drive during the months of September, October, November and December, to raise food for the 'holiday cheer baskets.'

According to Allison Sykes, SMP coordinator, the Officers' Wives' Club provides the turkeys for the baskets.

New River squadrons contribute food donations for the baskets through various fund raising efforts.

"We like to let the units decide what they want and when they want to do it, we just ask them to pledge to raise food once during the four months," said Sykes.

"What usually is done is the Friday morning after field day, if the Marine leaves three cans of food on the bed then they are exempt from the inspection," said Sykes.

Marines and Sailors from Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-167 participated in a 5-mile forced march Aug. 30, raising approximately 2,000 cans of food for the SMP food drive.



Lance Cpl. Misty D. Salinas

The Single Marine Program will be conducting a canned food drive through the holidays.

Once the food is collected it is stored at the chaplain's office.

"The chaplain's office works with the OWC to put the 'holiday cheer baskets' together," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Harriet Darden, chaplain's office.

"The chaplain and the unit command, the squadron gunnery sergeants and sergeants major,

decide who the baskets go to," said Sykes. "They are the ones that know the needs of their Marines."

The food drive will go from now until December, and the baskets will be given out for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

For more information, call Allison Sykes at 449-5846.

Women Equality Day



Lance Cpl. Misty D. Salinas

On Aug. 27, guest speaker, Cmdr. Sandra Middleton, spoke to Marines, Sailors and DoD employees gathered at the New River Officers' club celebrating Women's Equality Day.

Carolina Patriot 2002

Marines from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-26 spent three weeks off the coast of North Carolina participating in the Carolina Patriot 2002 exercise. During the exercise, Marines filled positions different than the ones they fill on Station, such as force protection.



Lance Cpl. Misty D. Salinas

MAG 29 Post and Relief



Lance Cpl. Andy Anderson

Sergeant Maj. Charles E. Tucker, new MAG 29 sergeant major, receives the NCO sword from Col. Robert E. Milstead Jr., MAG 29 commanding officer, during a post and relief ceremony, Aug. 30.

Opinions

Do not forget

Master Gunnery Sgt. Ed Evans
USMC (Ret.)

I sat in a movie theater watching "Schindler's List," asked myself, "Why didn't the Jews fight back?" Now I know why.

I sat in a movie theater, watching "Pearl Harbor" and asked myself, "Why weren't we prepared?" Now I know why.

Civilized people cannot fathom, much less predict, the actions of evil people.

On September 11, dozens of capable airplane passengers allowed themselves to be overpowered by a handful of poorly armed terrorists because they did not comprehend the depth of hatred that motivated their captors.

On September 11, thousands of innocent people were murdered because too many Americans naively reject the reality that some nations are dedicated to the dominance of others. Many political pundits, pacifists and media personnel want us to forget the carnage. They say we must focus on the bravery of the rescuers and ignore the cowardice of the killers. They implore us to understand the motivation of the perpetrators. Major television stations have announced they will assist the healing process by not replaying devastating footage of the planes crashing into the Twin Towers.

I will not be manipulated. I will not pretend to understand. I will not forget.

I will not forget the liberal media who abused freedom of the press to kick our country when it was vulnerable and hurting. I will not forget that CBS anchor Dan Rather preceded President Bush's address to the nation with the snide remark, "No matter how you feel about him, he is still our president."

I will not forget that ABC TV anchor Peter Jennings questioned President Bush's motives for not returning immediately to Washington, DC and commented, "We're all pretty skeptical and cynical about Washington."

And I will not forget that ABC's Mark Halperin warned if reporters weren't informed of every little detail of this war, they aren't "likely -- nor should they be expected -- to show deference."

I will not isolate myself from my fellow Americans by pretending an attack on the USS Cole in Yemen was not an attack on the United States of America.

I will not be appeased with pointless, quick retaliatory strikes like those perfected in the past. I will not be comforted by "feel-good, do nothing" regulations like the silly "Have your bags been under your control?" question at the airport.

I will not be influenced by so called, "antiwar demonstrators" who exploit the right of expression to chant anti-American obscenities.

I will not forget the moral victory handed the North Vietnamese by American war protesters who reviled and spat upon the returning soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines.

I will not be softened by the wishful thinking of pacifists who chose reassurance over reality.

I will embrace the wise words of Prime Minister Tony Blair who told Labor Party conference, "They have no moral inhibition on the slaughter of the innocent. If they could have murdered not 7,000 but 70,000, does anyone doubt they would have done so and rejoiced in it? There is no compromise possible with such people, no meeting of minds, no point of understanding with such terror. Just a choice: defeat it or be defeated by it. And defeat it we must!"

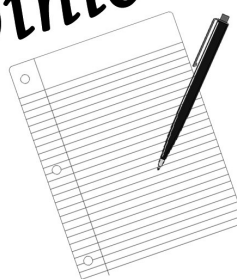
I will force myself to hear the weeping, feel the helplessness, imagine the terror, sense the panic, smell the burning flesh, experience the loss and remember the hatred.

I sat in a movie theater, watching "Private Ryan" and asked myself, "Where did they find the courage?" Now I know.

We have no choice. Living without liberty is not living.

THE ROTOVUE WANTS YOU

*Voice your
opinion in writing*



Let us know how
you feel about
issues surrounding
MCAS New River and
the Marine Corps

Send submissions to
chamberslj@newriver.usmc.mil

Opinion page submission does not guarantee publication. All entries are reviewed by the public affairs staff. No anonymous entries will be published. For more information, call JPAO at 449-6197/5434.

HURRICANES

Information For Preparation



Hurricane Season June 1 - Nov. 30

Knowing the Difference: Watch vs Warning

WATCH: A hurricane watch is issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions with 24-36 hours

WARNING: A hurricane warning is issued when hurricane conditions (winds greater than 74 mph or greater, or dangerously high water and rough seas) are expected within 24 hours or less

During a WATCH:

- *Decide early if you will stay home or leave if conditions get worse
- *Assemble your emergency supplies making sure that nothing has leaked or become damaged during storage; review your evacuation plan
- *Fuel the car with a full tank of gas
- *Bring in outdoor objects, anchoring those that cannot be brought inside
- *Secure the building by closing and boarding up windows and removing outside antennas if possible
- *Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest setting.
- *Store additional water in clean bathtubs, jugs, and cooking utensils
- *Secure any boats or trailers using tiedowns, anchoring to house or ground

During a WARNING:

- *Listen carefully for official instructions
- *If in a mobile home, check tiedowns and evacuate immediately
- *Store valuables and personal papers in waterproof containers and place on highest level in home or prepare to take with you

Hurricane Classification

Category One
Winds 74-95 mph or
storm surges 4-5 feet above normal

Category Two
Winds 69-110 mph or
storm surges 6-8 feet above normal

Category Three
Winds 111-130 mph or
storm surges 9-12 feet above normal

Category Four
Winds 131-155 mph or
storm surges 13-18 feet above normal

Category Five
Winds 155+ mph or
storm surges greater than 18 feet above normal

MCAS New River
Evacuation Shelters

Station Enlisted Club
Delalio Elementary
Station Fitness Center

If evacuating to a shelter, please bring the following items: one boxed lunch per person, medication, infant care items, hygiene items

**Anyone who decides to evacuate to a shelter must remain in the shelter until proper authorities determine the weather conditions safe enough to leave.*



Disaster Preparedness Kit

Water

- *Water should be stored in plastic containers such as soft drink bottles; avoid using containers that will decompose or break, such as mason jars or glass bottles
- *Never ration water; drink the amount you need today and try to find more for tomorrow
- *Store one gallon of water per person per day (two quarts for drinking, two quarts for food preparation/sanitation)
- *Purifying agents

Food

- *Store at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food; select foods that require no refrigeration, cooking or preparation; if you must heat food, pack a can of Sterno
- *Select food items that are compact and lightweight
- *Include a selection of the following foods in your disaster supplies kit: ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables, milk (powdered or canned), smoked or dried meats, high energy foods (peanut butter, jelly, crackers, nuts, health food bars, trail mix, etc.), juices (canned, powdered or crystallized), stress foods (sugar, cookies, hard candy, sweetened cereals), soups (boullion cubes or dried), vitamins

First Aid & Specialty Supplies

- *Sterile adhesive bandages and gauze pads in several sizes
- *Hypoallergenic adhesive tape
- *Scissors, tweezers, thermometer
- *Roll bandages, tongue blades, triangular bandages
- *Antiseptic, moistened towelettes, petroleum jelly
- *Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- *Antacid and anti-diarrhea medications, laxatives
- *Allergy medications for mold, etc.
- *Contact lens supplies, extra set of glasses
- *Important family documents and financial records
- *Prescription drugs
- *Needle, threads, safety pins
- *Cleaning agents, disinfectant, bleach and soap

Extra Items

- *Flashlight with extra batteries
- *Can opener (mechanical)
- *Sterno or other heat source
- *Radio with extra batteries
- *Calling card and family address/phone list
- *Cash and credit cards
- *Specialty items necessary for infants, elderly or disabled family members
- *Sturdy shoes, protective clothing, sleeping bags or other bedding
- *Road map of the local areas in case the route is unexpectedly changed

At The Homefront

Preparing Your Home

- *Remove all loose debris around the house
- *Trim back any trees with dead or weak branches
- *Make sure you have window protection (lock, tape, board or shutters)
- *Know where your utility mains are located and how to turn them off
- *Prepare for securing outside equipment (patio furniture, BBQs, trash cans, etc.)
- *Remember, you will need a professional to turn utilities back on

If Staying At Home

- *Stay inside away from windows, skylights and glass doors
- *Avoid open flames (candles and kerosene lamps) utilizing battery powered flashlights and know where extras are stored
- *If power is lost, turn off all major appliances and computer to reduce power surge damage when electricity is restored
- *Empty and secure all trash containers

If Evacuation Is Necessary

- *Secure home, unplugging appliances; turning off electrical and water mains
- *Take blankets, sleeping bags and pre-assembled shelter kit
- *Let designated family members outside of the area know your evacuation plans and when you will call again
- *Lock your doors and leave as soon as possible, avoiding flooded roads and using caution for washed out bridges

Returning Home After A Disaster

- *Keep a battery-operated radio nearby for updates
- *Use sturdy shoes and work gloves during cleanup
- *Check house, roof, and chimney for structural damage
- *Be careful when entering a building or as you go through each room of your home
- *Use caution while walking around as there may be downed electrical wires which are still live
- *Do not use open flames, torches, etc. to prevent fires
- *Watch out for animals, especially poisonous snakes that may have entered your home with floodwaters
- *Use a stick to poke around through debris
- *Remember to help your neighbors who may require special assistance, such as infants, elderly or those with disabilities
- *Open closets and cupboards carefully
- *Check food and water supplies before using them
- *Until phone service is fully restored, limit use to life-threatening emergencies or to contact insurance agents
- *Extinguish all open flames
- *Check gas, electrical, water, and sewage lines prior to using, noting that a professional may need to be called in to turn on utilities
- *Clean up spilled medicines, bleach, gasoline, or flammable liquids
- *Try to protect your home from further damage by covering windows
- *Pump out basement gradually, one-third per day to try and avoid damage of walls collapsing or floors buckling
- *Clean and disinfect everything that got wet
- *Throw out food, cosmetics and medicines that came into contact with floodwaters
- *Take pictures of damage
- *Keep good records of repair and cleaning costs; keep receipts in a safe place
- *Call your insurance agent
- *Get assistance from the American Red Cross and FEMA
- *Watch for signs of stress in your family and pets; contact the American Red Cross or other health professionals to help you and your family cope with these common feelings and reactions



Editor's Note: All hurricane and preparation information received from the American Red Cross; Photos gathered from various Hurricane Floyd websites



The excitement was sky high as the "Raging Bulls" of HMM-261 marched their way to the crowd after a long six-month deployment, Aug. 28.

Home sweet home

New River, family members welcome home 22nd MEU(SOC)

**Story and photos by
Cpl. Andrew W. Miller**
correspondent

Marines and Sailors from Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-261 returned, Aug. 28, after completing six months in the Mediterranean, south of Asia and the Middle East with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable).

During their deployment, the "Raging Bulls" played a crucial role in Operation Enduring freedom.

Because of the events of September 11, 2001 there was an added stress for both family members and the Marines and Sailors during this deployment.

"Before September 11, 2001 I thought of the Marine Corps as just another job, but now I realize that it is war time and we had better pray," said Margaret Wiggins, mother of Gunnery Sgt. George Wiggins, HMM-261 hydraulics quality assurance.

"Since he has been gone, I have had two families to look after," said Bob Wiggins, father of Gunnery Sgt. Wiggins. "We have depended upon the Lord 100 percent."

Under the command of Lt. Col. Mark Desens, the Raging Bulls and 22nd MEU(SOC) performed their jobs

effectively, performing anti-terrorism operations that allowed the families back home to feel safe.

"We went out there for one reason alone and that was to keep America safe from terrorists," explained Cpl. Jason Smith, HMM-261.

Although the deployment was long, the Marines found ways, such as looking at photos and writing letters, to keep their minds at ease.

"Besides working all the time, hearing from our families kept us motivated to continue our jobs because we knew that the people back home depend on us," said Smith. "Everyone looked forward to checking their e-mail and receiving photos and letters."

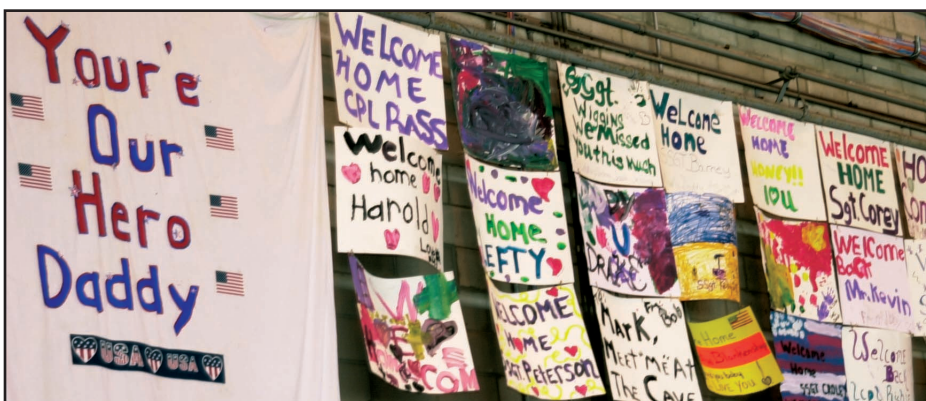
Now that they are back home, the Marines and Sailors of HMM-261 are planning nothing more than spending much needed and very much deserved quality time with their spouses, children and other family and friends.

So what's next in the war on terrorism? No one can really say exactly at this point, but the Raging Bulls of HMM-261 accepted their challenge, stepped up and accomplished their mission in traditional Marine Corps style.

The 24th MEU(SOC) replaced the 22nd MEU(SOC) as the forward deployed element in the Mediterranean.



Corporal Jason Smith, HMM-261, greets his wife Jamie and son Logan.



The "Raging Bulls" hangar was decorated with warm welcomes in celebration of their return home.



One fly over was all it took to get the family and friends of the "Raging Bulls" screaming their names.



Cpl. Juan Vara

Honorable Delma Collins, chairman, Board of Commissioners, Maj. Gen. David M. Mize, commanding general, Camp Lejeune, and Col. Dennis T. Bartels, Station commanding officer, sign Military-Civilian Task Force for Emergency Response charters.

Area leaders reaffirm co-op

RotoVue Staff report

Leaders from both the military and civilian communities in Onslow County reaffirmed their unity by re-signing the Military-Civilian Task Force for Emergency Response Charter Friday, during an emergency capability exercise at the Jacksonville USO. The charter supports the continuation and development of productive relationships in areas such as emergency service mutual aid, cooperation, team building and professionalism.

Since the charter's inception, MCAS New River has participated in the joint committee; however, this was the first year the Air Station was officially and formally recognized as a member. The partnership of both New River and Camp Lejeune in the charter's efforts means equal and complete military community support for the standardization and procedures established by the local community leadership.

"This union has set the tone, fostering a relationship and developing capabilities that at present, lead our country in homeland defense," said Col. Dennis T. Bartels, MCAS New River commanding officer. "This significantly amplifies the overall quality of life throughout Onslow County."

By combining all areas of expertise under a common goal, the ability to facilitate information effectively and efficiently paves the

way for advances in the local community and eventually throughout the United States to win the fight against terrorism.

New River Marines joined more than 100 other military and civilian emergency response personnel to share information on the capabilities of mutual aid agencies and available resources that may be used to provide lifesaving services in the event of a terrorist attack in the area.

Onslow County Emergency Services and Camp Lejeune's Installation Safety and Security hosted the exercise at the Jacksonville USO Friday morning. New River's participation included representatives from the Station Provost Marshal's Office, Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting, Ground Electronics and Maintenance Division, Station Weather, and Station Operations.

"It's appropriate to review our terrorist response capabilities as we approach the one year anniversary of the terrorist attacks on America," said Doug Bass, director, Onslow County Emergency Services. "This exercise provides us a perfect opportunity to assess our strengths."

After the exercise scenario was presented, attendees broke out in functional groups such as law enforcement, infrastructure, and health and human services to examine and report on their ability to launch and emergency response to a mock attack in the proximity of Camp Geiger involving a bomb.

New River's ARFF: declared best

Cpl. Andrew W. Miller correspondent

From time to time, Marine Corps units are rewarded for the hard work they do and for New River's Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting, their time came, Aug. 24.

During a presentation in Kansas City, Mo., ARFF received the annual "Best ARFF in the Marine Corps" award from the Navy and Marine Corps National Fire Protection Association. For New River, this was the second consecutive year to receive this recognition, defeating six other ARFF units in the medium category (category decided upon size of airfield). The winners were chosen based upon the amount of training accomplished and new programs instrumented and completed.

"Our training and capabilities have grown this past year with the addition of two new rescue boats because we are surrounded by water and a 'Gator' for those hard to reach places," said Sgt. Michael McElhoney, ARFF section non-commissioned officer. "The boats have helped with our water rescue skills

and the gator helps with off station emergencies such as wooded areas."

In addition to this, ARFF is now involving all of their approximately 80 Marines in water rescue classes.

"As a unit, we continue to train and grow in the ever-changing field of firefighting," said Gunnery Sgt. Coleman Cannon Jr., New River crash chief. "Our unit is full of outstanding, well-rounded Marines who are ready to respond to any and all firefighting and water rescue tasks."

"ARFF is just one more unit aboard the Air Station that allows New River to be more equally balanced with talent and every Marine here should be proud of our overall perspective," said Cannon.

"Any time you win an award of this degree, it lets the Marines in your shop know they are doing a good job," Cannon explained.

For the upcoming year, ARFF is planning to continue their training, striving to make New River's ARFF the best in the Corps again. With knowledge of both firefighting and water rescue, these Marines become more well-rounded every day.





Lance Cpl. Misty D. Salinas

Lt. Col. Larry Fulwiler, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-461 commanding officer, surpasses 3,000 flight hours.

‘Iron Horse’ surpasses 3,000

Lance Cpl. Misty D. Salinas
correspondent

The sky was gray and the rain came down as the number 13 CH-53E Sea Stallion for Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-461 taxied back to the hangar.

Lt. Col. Larry Fulwiler, HMH-461 commanding officer, stepped off the aircraft and headed toward the hangar, where Marines from the squadron waited for him.

Amidst handshakes and congratulations, the Marines took the opportunity to celebrate Fulwiler surpassing 3,000 mishap-free flight hours by dousing him with a cooler of water.

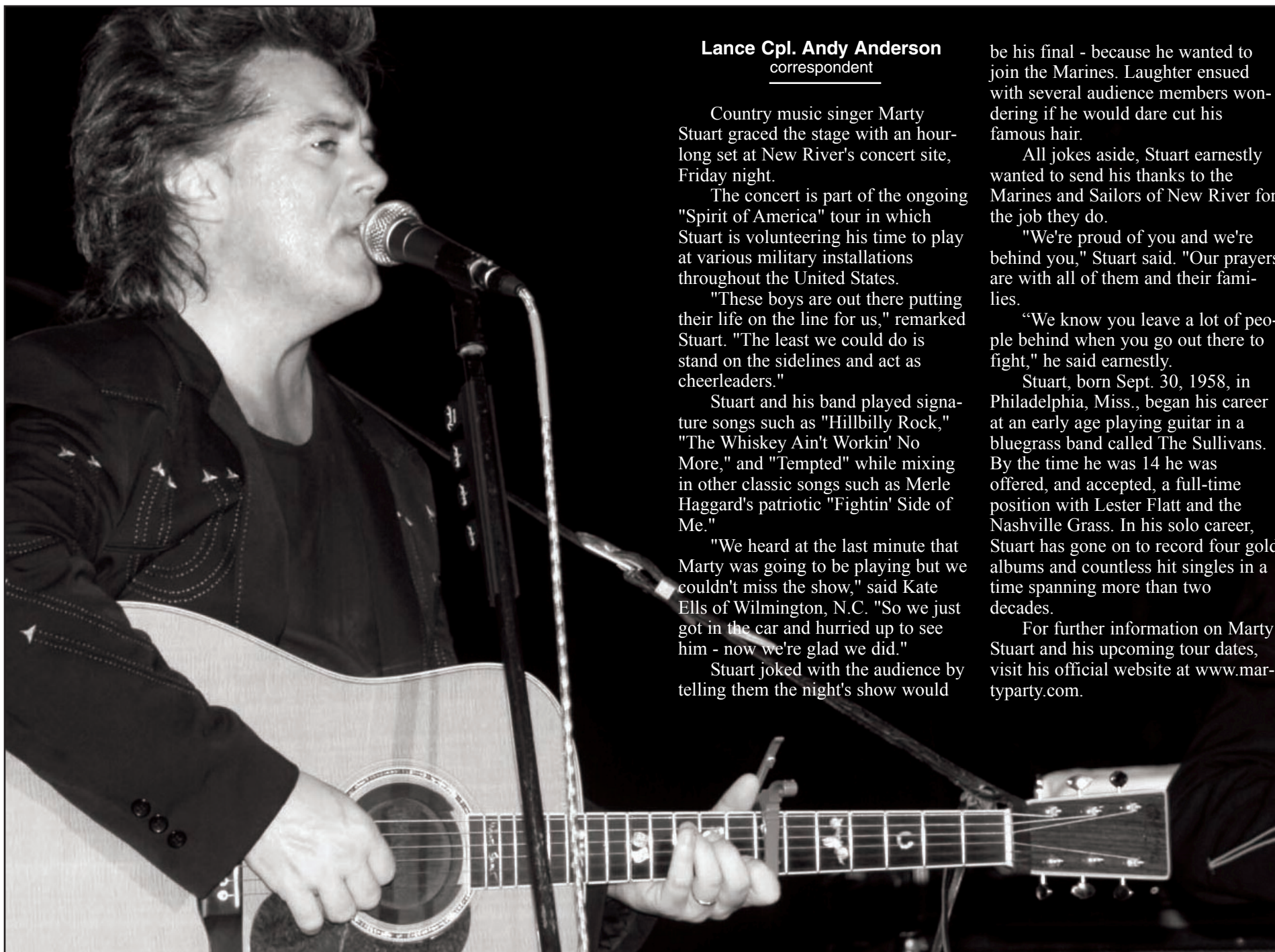
"This is personal and professional milestone for me," said Fulwiler.

Fulwiler has been flying since 1983. In 1988, he moved from HMH-464 to HMH-461. This is his third tour with the squadron.

Fulwiler will receive the Marine Corps Aviation Safety Award for surpassing 3,000 hours.

For every 1,000 mishap-free flight hours a pilot surpasses, the Marine Corps Safety Division, Headquarters Marine Corps, presents the award, said Capt. Nathan A. Miller, HMH-461 safety officer.

MCAS hosts 'Spirit of America' tour



Lance Cpl. Andy Anderson
correspondent

Country music singer Marty Stuart graced the stage with an hour-long set at New River's concert site, Friday night.

The concert is part of the ongoing "Spirit of America" tour in which Stuart is volunteering his time to play at various military installations throughout the United States.

"These boys are out there putting their life on the line for us," remarked Stuart. "The least we could do is stand on the sidelines and act as cheerleaders."

Stuart and his band played signature songs such as "Hillbilly Rock," "The Whiskey Ain't Workin' No More," and "Tempted" while mixing in other classic songs such as Merle Haggard's patriotic "Fightin' Side of Me."

"We heard at the last minute that Marty was going to be playing but we couldn't miss the show," said Kate Ells of Wilmington, N.C. "So we just got in the car and hurried up to see him - now we're glad we did."

Stuart joked with the audience by telling them the night's show would

be his final - because he wanted to join the Marines. Laughter ensued with several audience members wondering if he would dare cut his famous hair.

All jokes aside, Stuart earnestly wanted to send his thanks to the Marines and Sailors of New River for the job they do.

"We're proud of you and we're behind you," Stuart said. "Our prayers are with all of them and their families."

"We know you leave a lot of people behind when you go out there to fight," he said earnestly.

Stuart, born Sept. 30, 1958, in Philadelphia, Miss., began his career at an early age playing guitar in a bluegrass band called The Sullivans. By the time he was 14 he was offered, and accepted, a full-time position with Lester Flatt and the Nashville Grass. In his solo career, Stuart has gone on to record four gold albums and countless hit singles in a time spanning more than two decades.

For further information on Marty Stuart and his upcoming tour dates, visit his official website at www.marty-stuart.com.

Watch your

speed

Crosswalks active:

8 - 9 a.m.

3 - 4 p.m.

**SPEED
LIMIT
25**



House Hunting 101: Finding a home in Onslow County

Cpl. Juan Vara
correspondent

If you and your family are moving to Jacksonville, N.C. due to permanent change of station orders or you have recently been authorized to live out in town, here are a few guidelines to help you find a home in Onslow County.

The first thing to do is make your way to MCB Camp Lejeune's housing referral service on 43 Inchon St. aboard Tarawa Terrace II and see a housing counselor.

Once there, you will specify what kind of property you're interested in, whether it is an apartment, duplex, townhouse or house.

Specifications such as number of bedrooms, price range and monthly payments are entered into a database that generates a list of properties available within the next 30 days. This database is updated daily and only features valid private landlords [Marines and Sailors who own homes for rent] and valid local real estate agencies. All

properties in this database are located within a one-hour driving distance.

The printout contains the address of the property, information on whom to contact, type of property, monthly rent, deposit, amount of bedrooms, if furnished or unfurnished and details on amenities such as pools, fireplaces, ocean view, etc.

"Most orders require you to check-in with the Family Housing Division before making a rental agreement out in town," said Donna H. Velez, fiscal director at Camp Lejeune's family housing office. "Many people don't find out about us until they attend their Welcome Aboard Brief and it may already be too late."

You'll receive a housing referral packet, which contains a guidebook to the area's military installations, a Jacksonville/Onslow Quality of Life Guide, the latest issue of Jacksonville/New Bern's Apartment Finder and a Quality Map of Jacksonville and Onslow County, loaded with information specifically

put together to ease your move.

According to Velez, realtors cannot make cosmetic improvements to a property without the homeowner approving and what's more important, providing the funds.

"Ask the real estate agent if the carpet will be replaced or the house will be repainted," she said. "It has to be specified on the lease or those repairs will probably never be done. You have to remember you're generally renting in an 'as is' condition."

Homeowners, according to Velez, sometimes will only fix what current law requires them to fix.

"We offer counseling on utilities and other expenses as well," stated Velez. "We try to advise a prospect tenant to consider all of the things involved in renting, all those little things add up."

All in all, Velez said it takes up to \$1,500 the first month of moving into a new place.

One money-saving tip Velez suggested is that tenants apply for a waiver

of electricity deposits from their local credit unions.

Since 1997, HRS has operated a program called Set-A-Side Housing. Local real estate agencies are in a formal agreement with the military housing divisions to allow military members to rent a property without payment of a security deposit. The Family Housing Division decides who is eligible for this. Key factors here are your basic monthly pay, time left on current contract and basic allowance for housing.

Providing free services to military personnel, their family members, Department of Defense civilian employees and military retirees, the HRS works on a "first come, first served" basis, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

"Our busiest times are from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and then again at 3 p.m.," said Velez. "If you come in early we can take care of you faster."

For more information, call the Family Housing Division at 450-1627.

Headquarters squadron under new reign

Lance Cpl. Andy Anderson
correspondent

Fresh from leading Marines in the Middle East, one new commanding officer on Station is preparing to take charge of the Marines at Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron.

"I'm looking forward to working with the young Marines here," said Lt. Col. Tim Fitzgerald, incoming H&HS commanding officer. "They motivate me ... I truly enjoy it."

He also says he looks forward to being a part of the "H&HS machine".

"The primary focus of H&HS is to enable [Marine Aircraft Group] 29 and MAG 26 to do the mission they are assigned to do," said Fitzgerald. "We help them by providing the support they need."

Fitzgerald comes to the Air Station upon finishing a tour as the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit executive officer where he led those Marines during both Operations Anaconda and Enduring Freedom in and around Afghanistan. He says the responsibilities associated with those six-and-a-half months are among his best Marine Corps experiences so far. Those responsibilities included combat engagements, humanitarian assistance operations and military exercises.

The El Paso, Texas, native says his various Marine Corps experiences, especially those involving the diverse Marines of the 13th MEU, should aid him in a successful tour with the Marines of H&HS.

Perhaps having the qualifications of being stationed on both East and West Coasts of the United States, spending time deployed in Japan, working with three different MEUs, and participating in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm - among

others - will help him too.

"We need to find out what motivates Marines; what brings them into the Marine Corps and keeps them in the Marine Corps," explained Fitzgerald, "then we need to give that to them."

Along with identifying what makes Marines stay Marine, he says he also aims to keep the same level of expectation for H&HS Marines and the work they do.

"My goal is to continue with the fine performance the Marines at H&HS have been doing and to continue to instill the character of the Marine Corps in these Marines," said Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald plans to spend a lot of time gaining an understanding of the various responsibilities H&HS has by visiting Marines in their offices.

"I want to find out what we are doing that is right and what we are doing that is wrong," he said. "Then, I hope if there's a problem out there these Marines will provide me with a solution. I'm not in the hot seat out there ... you have to provide me with the knowledge you have from being the Marine doing your job."

The Marine of 19 years says finding the most efficient way of doing things is key in building and maintaining strong Marine forces.

"We need to institutionalize what we do that is right and then pass that along to our younger Marines," said Fitzgerald. "By doing that, we pass along the finest traditions and the best training."

Fitzgerald began his Marine Corps career in 1983 upon graduating from the Virginia Military Institute with a bachelor of arts in history.

Perhaps the most distinguishing mark in his career lies in his assignment to Marine Helicopter Squadron One - the President of the United States'

helicopter squadron.

While serving there, he was assigned the billets of assistant safety officer, Executive Alert Facility officer-in-charge, and as the Executive Flight Detachment quality assurance officer. He was designated a White House helicopter aircraft commander in the CH-53E, 53D, VH-60N and the VH-3D, as well as co-piloted the CH-46E. He was also a presidential command pilot.



Lance Cpl. Eric A. Archer

Lt. Col. Steven S. Simpson hands over command of Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron MCAS New River to Lt. Col. Timothy W. Fitzgerald August 29.

Be wary of e-mail chain letters, know the policy

Timothy G. Sikes
MCLB Albany

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, GA-- According to an e-mail recently circulated on base, Microsoft Corporation is giving money to anyone who forwards a particular e-mail. According to the e-mail, Microsoft is testing an e-mail tracking system, and anyone who forwards the e-mail will receive money for doing so.

This is simply a hoax circulated as an e-mail chain letter. I believe this particular one has been around for almost as long as Windows, the World Wide Web and e-mail. It is simple NOT TRUE.

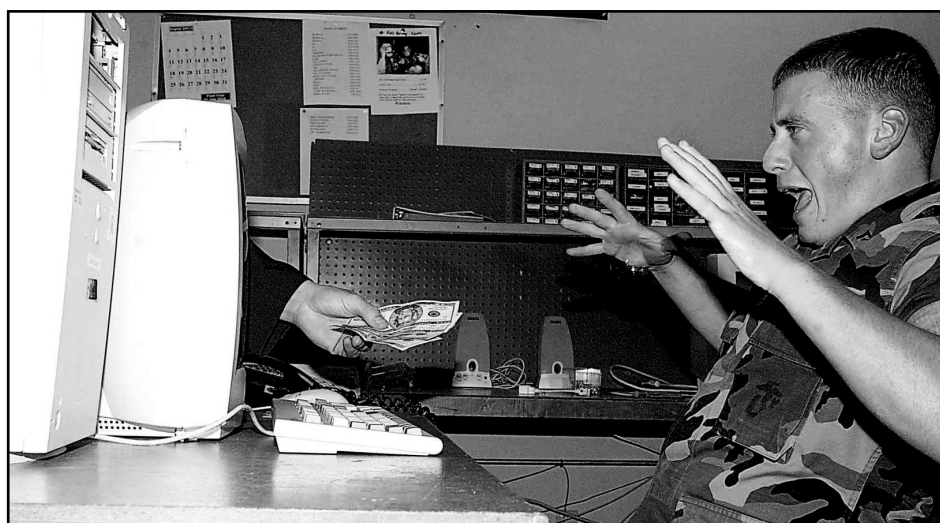
Regardless of the content, it is against Marine Corps and Marine Corps Bases' policy to participate in the creation or forwarding of e-mail chain letters. Marine Corps policy defines e-mail chain letters as:

- (1) Those which promise/threaten good/bad luck.
- (2) Illegal pyramid-scheme letters that promise to make you lots of money.
- (3) Hoaxes/urban legends.
- (4) Any e-mail that is unrelated to the mission of the Command and has been forwarded at least three times (e.g., an e-mail that tells a joke).
- (5) E-mails that solicit and/or encourage the widespread dissemination of the e-mail to others for no official purpose.

Given our limited network infrastructure and the Global Address List, it is very easy for individuals to forward e-mail chain letters to literally thousands of

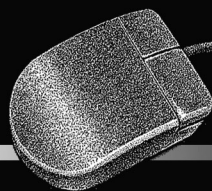
individuals with a few clicks of their mouse. This can easily overload Marine Corps Enterprise Network exchange servers and communication circuits.

If you receive an e-mail chain letter, notify your information systems coordinator or the Help Desk.



courtesy photo

Station Information You Can Connect With ...



www.newriver.usmc.mil



24th MEU(SOC) remembers September 11

Sgt. Zachary A. Bathon
24th MEU

USS NASSAU AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP, ATLANTIC OCEAN -- The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 impacted the lives of Americans around the world in many ways. The first anniversary of the attacks marks a special time to remember those affected by the tragedy.

During this time Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) took time to recall how the events affected them and what it means for them to be currently deployed with the MEU.

For Lance Cpl. Kevin James, communications section, 24th MEU last Sept. 11 was a day spent worrying about a family member who worked in the World Trade Center.

"I have an uncle who worked for the Port Authority in the World Trade Center," said James. "I was working at 8th Communications Battalion at Camp Lejeune when I heard that someone had flown planes into the towers."

Once he heard the news, the East Brunswick, N.J. native said he spent the rest of the day trying to get in touch of his uncle but was unsuccessful due to the phone lines in New York being jammed.

"Finally I got word from another member of my family that he was all right," said James. "It turns out that he missed his train that morning and was late for work. He was walking into the building just as the second plane hit."

With such a connection to the terrorist attacks James said he is very excited about being on this deployment.

"I'm just glad I have this opportunity to defend my country," he said. "It's also great to have the amount of support we have back home."

Another Marine with a special connection to the



Sgt. Bryan P. Reed

The New York/New Jersey Port Authority Police Flag flies aboard the *USS Nassau* as Marines and Sailors deployed with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) remember the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

attacks is Capt. Harry L. Gardner, adjutant, 24th MEU (SOC).

"My brother was working in the Pentagon as an aide to the Commandant of the Marine Corps when the plane hit," said the Fairfax, Va. native. "I was deployed with the MEU in Kosovo at the time and was conducting a tour for a vice admiral when a Swedish guard gave me word of what had happened in New York."

Once he heard the news, Gardner said he got back to Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo and saw everything on TV. It was there he learned that the Pentagon was also hit.

"I knew my brother was in there and didn't know if he was hit or not," he said. "I began sending e-

mails out to see if he was okay.

"About 24 hours later I got a response back saying he was all right, but that was a rough 24 hours," said Gardner.

He also thinks that Sept. 11 has had a major influence on this deployment.

"I think we have the same likelihood as the 26th MEU did to end up in the next hot zone," said Gardner. "This has definitely made me think more about being prepared for something to happen."

For Sgt. Alex VanBreukelen, supply section, 24th MEU (SOC), and Long Island, N.Y. native, Sept. 11 is a day that people all over the country were brought together, and a day that made the people of New York realize there is more in life than just New York.

"I know a few people that lost their lives in the attacks on the World Trade Center." No one in my immediate family, but people I knew growing up. That has had an affect on me."

As far as being on deployment with the MEU right now, VanBreukelen can't think of anywhere else he would want to be.

"I think Sept. 11 has made everyone 100 percent operational," he said. "People on the ships are not worried about liberty (time off). They are waiting for something to happen and they are definitely ready to go and get some if they need to."

With the memory of Sept. 11 so strong in the minds of the Marines and Sailors currently deployed, the MEU is planning an observance on the anniversary.

The MEU will also screen an Emmy-nominated Home Box Office documentary about the attacks called "In Memoriam."

The MEU and *USS Nassau* (LHA-4) will also conduct a video teleconference with students from schools in Ocean City, N.J. This will offer the opportunity for the Marines and Sailors to describe deployed life to young people who are interested.

Forward-deployed. Ready.

"The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave ..."

-Patrick Henry



www.24meu.usmc.mil

NFL fans get glimpse of military sacrifices

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- Throughout the upcoming season, American football fans will get a glimpse of the sacrifices the men and women of the armed forces make.

The National Football League is sponsoring "American Postcards," a series of profiles to be broadcast during regular and post-season games.

"About 120 million people watch an NFL game each weekend," said Allison Barber, a Pentagon spokeswoman. "Our goal is to allow men and women across America to be able to feel a connection to our military members."

Barber said NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue came up with the idea in early August. "What they had in mind was just regular stories of military folks who had written letters home, or who have e-mailed or who have found unique ways to communicate with their families," she said.

NFL Films chose stories from suggestions from the Defense Department and the services -- including two stories featured on www.DefendAmerica.gov. The spots are scheduled to begin airing on Sept. 5 with the New York Giants vs. the San Francisco 49ers game on ESPN. The spots will also run during NFL games broadcast on CBS, Fox and ABC.

NFL Films traveled to Afghanistan to speak with service members and to stateside hometowns to

speak with family members and friends. In one instance, filmmakers spoke with Army Spc. Julia Pilat in Afghanistan. An Army Reservist, Pilat is a 10th grade teacher from Beacon, N.Y. The spot will feature her as she speaks with 19 students from her class via a video teleconference link.

Another ad features Marine Capt. Rico Hunter. The NFL crew caught Hunter as he was calling Paul Johnson, his former football coach at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Another features Air Force Airman Amy Ting. On Sept. 11 last year, she was a civilian and in the Marriott Hotel across the street from the World Trade Center. She enlisted the week following the attack. The NFL crew filmed Ting on duty at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Plans are for future spots to feature service members based in the Persian Gulf, aboard ship and across the United States. "In the midst of a football game, we want people to pause and recognize that every minute of every day, someone is defending our country," Barber said.

She said a secondary DoD goal is for people to become excited about the military. "It's not a recruiting campaign in any way," she said. "But it is an education campaign."

Barber said the NFL is just the latest in a long list of organizations that have contacted the Defense Department looking for ways to support the men and women of the military.



Capt. Rob James

"What Does The Military Mean To You"

What The Military Means To ME

"It is fun being a military son" because you get to do lots of fun things to do. You get to travel to Disney, Animal Kingdom, and the zoo. You also get to do things that people who don't work in a Military does. You can also live on base and go to a football game and also to have a travel on a battleship. You go to school on a base, you meet new people, and you get to see your dad at work. He shows you big weapons, planes, helicopters, and the people he works with.

He also fights for freedom. He went to a sand storm war in 1994 when I was one years old. Sometimes my dad brings home Souvernirs like rocks from Afganistan, or he might even bring home a scorpion, or a snake in a jar. Sometimes he drives us to Chuckle Cheese. My dad even challenges me who can eat the most hamburger's, hot dogs, chicken. It's fun being a Military kid.

Chris Snyder, age 9, Delalio Elementary

What the Military Means to Me By Katelynn Cutshall

When I see the word military I think overseas, boot camp and my Dad.

Overseas is pretty hard on some families. Overseas is when a military member goes over to another country. They could be gone for as long as six months or more. Sometimes, if you're lucky, you can get fewer months like three. You can sometimes e-mail each other, or write each other.

Boot camp is where young men or woman go to train to be in the military. It takes months to train them. They eat three meals a day in the chow hall. They learn how to work has a team. All these things are important to learn to trust each other.

I think about my Dad when I see the word military because he is in the Marines. My Dad is overseas and went through the hardest Marine boot camp there every was at Parris Island. My Dad has been overseas for five months. My Dad is very cool. He got promoted to CWO 2 while overseas.

That is what I think when I see the word military. I am glad my Dad is in the military but I am not glad he is overseas.

The End

Katelynn Cutshall, age 10, Delalio Elementary

What the Military Means to me

I get to go to better schools.
And love to go to swimming pools.

I go to the beach.
And see the creek.

Planes fly over sky scraping towers.
And people live free the same hours.

Tanks, guns, trucks, and Helicopters, such a disaster. Why can't we live free instead of a disaster?

We move north of the U.S.A.
And south of the U.S.A.
but we all still live free.

Our Dads Fight for freedom
and that will never change

Stephanie Hallas, age 9, Delalio Elementary

What Military Means to me? By Alexis Reliford

To me the military means going to boot camp or a military academy. I also means living on base and your parents going out on float. Sometimes it means people join the Marine Corps so they can help fight for other peoples freedom. I really think marines care about our flag and country.

As I grow up I think about being in the military. I like to think of it as making new friends because when you are in the military you move alot. I really don't like to move but it's fun to make new friends. I have fun when I go to a new school because then every body is nice to you. Sometimes they sit by you at lunch and play with you at recess.

Sometimes when I move I feel bad, but when I get there I feel happy. My old friends are usually sad, but we call each other.

I am glad my dad is in the military because I like my dad fighting for freedom. I feel special because my life is different from a civilian child.

Alexis Reliford, age 8, Delalio Elementary

Thank You!



The RotoVue staff would like to thank the following

Delalio Elementary

School students for their participation in the story writing/drawing showcase. Unfortunately, we could not print all of the submissions this publication, however, please look for more of the submitted essays to run in future editions. We would also like to thank the Delalio for encouraging the children to use their creative talents to let us know what the military means to them.

Hannah Soule, age 9
Chris Peeke, age 10
Savannah Sparkman, age 9
Zachary Warden, age 9
Ashlee Tavernier, age 9
Cody Smith, age 9
Colton Killion, age 9
Bobby Adair, age 9
Andrew Brumitt, age 9
Leslie Benavides, age 10
Dillon Cole, age 9
Chris Greppi, age 9
Dillon Buzynski, age 9
Steven Ake, age 9
Ronnie Leonard, age 9
Harvey E. Shiver II, age 9
Damian Coker, age 10
Veronica Beers, age 9
Kenneth Davis, age 10
Andy Lewis, age 11
Chris Duncan, age 10
Jose Salcedo, age 10
Andrew Strickland, age 10
Tommie Bencinic, age 10
Tori Temples, age 10
Charles Shelley, age 10
Kellie Lytle, age 10
Mitra Cook, age 10
Lamar Jelks, age 9
Katie Olson, age 10
Dustin Geroski, age 10
Madison Jo Cullman, age 10
Baylie Williams, age 10
Jerry Perez, age 10
Ashley Guinn, age 10
Andrew Haar, age 10
Dominik Wilson, age 10
Callyia Collins, age 10

September 11

Looking back on

lessons learned

Lisa Aszklar

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

Only perhaps a handful of times in the course of our lives does an event so catastrophic occur that we are able to pinpoint years later our whereabouts and doings at that instant.

Many of us have heard our parents recount the moment they learned of the bombing of Pearl Harbor or their schedules the day President Kennedy was assassinated. For many in our generation, the defining moment came last September 11, a Tuesday that dawned so clear and bright that many commented later how picture perfect was the weather on that late summer day.

Before day's end, President Bush would address the nation and condemn the "faceless coward" behind the attacks, but he would also reach out to the American people, saying, and "I know your heart is broken." The unspeakable horror witnessed over and over by millions of Americans that day was an open wound, fresh and raw, on our collective being as a people united in the name of freedom and justice. As a country, we were victims of the absolute darkest side of human nature last September 11, and our nation wept.

Now, a year later, we are able to look back with a calmer, clearer eye at the events of that horrific day. While the pain and suffering of such a heinous attack have aged, the happenings of that day will forever haunt those who lost loved ones. But amid the dark, brooding clouds of our national anger, there are several key lessons that we as a nation have learned from our generation's "day that will live in infamy." Those lessons offer the seeds of hope for not only our generation, but also the generations that will follow ours.

First, we learned how tenuous life truly is, and how in the blink of an eye we could lose that opportunity to live and to grow and, perhaps most important, to impact the lives of others in a positive manner. Every dawn presents the chance to help better the lives and fortunes of others who are less

fortunate than ourselves and to help improve our communities and our society as a whole.

Second, we learned compassion as individuals and as a nation. President Bush's call for donations to aid the children of Afghanistan following the attack on our country by a group closely aligned with the ruling government of that nation plumbs the depth of human kindness. Too, the outpouring of donations to assist widows and children of those injured or killed in the attack shows the incredible generosity of millions of Americans as we rose to answer the call.

Third, we learned to hope. As we look to the future - a future free from the evils of terror, free from oppression of women and minorities, and free from fear - we are reminded of the tenets upon which our nation was founded and built. More than two hundred years ago, as the architects of our Constitution met and mapped out our government and our nation, stars fell on the United States of America. Those stars have grown and multiplied and matured into the country for which we fight today; into the people who comprise this great nation; and into the ideals we hold dear.

It is that country, and those people, and these ideals that collectively comprise our great nation and give each of us a reason to continue.

We at Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society join millions of our fellow Americans in looking to the future, while at the same time offering our prayers to the families of those who lost loved ones as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11. Since that day, this nation has countered the forces of evil with the bravery and unselfishness of hundreds of thousands of Americans who believe that right will prevail and that freedom is worth fighting for. We join our government and our military forces in looking to the future because we continue to believe in those stars that fell on this great country so long ago.



Sgt. Joseph R. Chenelly